

REMARKS

New formal drawings are required, incorporating the changes made and accepted in the previously filed amendment. Formal drawings are being submitted, and are attached hereto.

Claims 15-27 have been objected to due to informalities. Claim 15 has been amended to correct the noted informality.

Claims 15, 16, 20-24 and 28 have been rejected under 102(e) as anticipated by Polikaitis. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claimed invention, as amended, performs a speech recognition which yields words, pauses and boundaries between pauses and words. The average word volume and the average pause volume is then determined based on the recognition result, i.e. the knowledge regarding which part of the voice signal is recognized as a word and which part is recognized as a pause. The result of the recognition is corrected such that a word, whose volume distance between the average word volume and the average silence volume is lower than a predetermined threshold, is evaluated as having been incorrectly recognized. Neither Polikaitis nor Wu disclose these features.

More specifically, Polikaitis discloses a segmentation of a voice signal into words and pauses. However, it does not disclose that this segmentation is based on a preliminary voice recognition. Rather, a voice-noise classifier is disclosed. The claimed invention, on the other hand, specifically requires a “segmentation” of voice signals into words and pauses and converting the words into text (see, for example, claims 1 and 28). This eliminates error in the determination by removing unwanted noise typically caused by pauses between words.

Claims 17-19 and 25-26 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is

determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122015600. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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